

# The **SEX** Manifesto\*

\* Manifesto: a public declaration of principles, intentions, motives, or views.

## **Strong gay and bisexual communities working towards health and well-being.**

### Values

**We are all responsible for the health and well being of our sex partners, our communities and ourselves. This responsibility is based on these values:**

- Each of us has value regardless of HIV status, race, age, appearance and identity.
- Our communities support relationships that are passionate, healthy, consensual, honest, respectful and compassionate including friends, tricks, fuck buddies, female partners, lovers and others.
- Unprotected anal/vaginal sex with a partner whose HIV status is unknown or different from our own is unacceptable and detrimental to our health.
- Being high or drunk is not an excuse for unsafe sex! **You can practice safer sex while partying!**
- STDs and HIV are not a rite of passage and are not inevitable; giving or getting them is avoidable.

### Actions

**We consciously choose to create health and well-being by:**

- Leading by example and telling each other our stories about successes and challenges with safer sex.
- Challenging behaviors and attitudes that spread HIV and AIDS.
- Knowing our HIV/STD status! Talking with all of our sex partners about individual status and negotiating safer sex.
- Using a condom for anal/vaginal sex if we have multiple sex partners, and getting tested every six weeks to three months for HIV and STDs.
- Remembering that a negative test for HIV or STDs may not be accurate if we have recently had unprotected sex.
- For those of us who may get high or drunk, **making a sexual safety plan and sticking to it!**

- Advocating for the health and well-being of everyone in our communities, to assure access to health information and treatment for all, and to end discrimination.
- Getting involved in our communities' actions.

### Providers & Organizations

**HIV/AIDS and related organizations must be responsible to their communities. This includes healthcare providers, HIV prevention workers, public health staff, AIDS service and other related organizations and businesses that benefit from and support gay communities. Providers and organizations can demonstrate these values by:**

- Making it easy for community members to be involved and have influence.
- Taking actions to support healthy community norms.
- Providing up to date, relevant information about HIV and STDs.
- Promoting culturally relevant health messages.
- Developing and supporting a variety of HIV/STD prevention and health promotion programs that meet the needs of our diverse communities.
- Being responsive and accountable to community feedback and evaluation findings.
- Advocating for funding to support effective HIV Prevention and Care Services.

If you would like to give feedback on this document, find out about other resources or if you have any other ideas on

keeping our communities safe log on to **homohealth.org** or contact us at:

**<http://www.metrokc.gov/health/apu/taskforce>**

Prepared by the

MSM HIV/STD Prevention Task Force  
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